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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7816**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 596

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 12, 2005

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Voting Rights of Felons; Voter Identification.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Hershman

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (A) The bill provides that a person convicted of a felony after June 30, 2005, is not eligible to register or vote until the person is no longer incarcerated, on parole, or under court supervision. The bill requires the county department, office, or agency supervising or responsible for the placement of a person convicted of a felony to notify the county voter registration office of the person's conviction and placement.

(B) The bill requires a voter, before voting at the polls, to show identification that contains the voter's photograph unless the voter executes an affidavit indicating the voter: (1) is indigent and unable to obtain a picture identification; or (2) has a religious objection to being photographed. The bill allows a voter who is otherwise unable or refuses to provide a picture identification to vote by provisional ballot. The bill repeals a superseded statute concerning procedures for admittance of a voter to the polls.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (A) Under current law, the Indiana Election Division is required after December 31, 2005, to coordinate the State Voter Registration List (SVRL) with the Department of Corrections to allow disenfranchised voters to be removed from the SVRL by the county voter registration office (CVRO). Under the bill, the Division may require additional administrative time, to coordinate the SVRL. The Division's resources should be sufficient to carry out this provision.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** (A) County officials could require additional administrative time to

compile a monthly list of convictions. The bill would require the county clerk to forward monthly notifications electronically to the Indiana Election Division and National Voter Registration officials.

Under current law, the SVRL must be formatted so that only the county voter registration office may change data in the file concerning the voters registered in the county.

*Commitments Data:* The following table illustrates the number of convicted persons entering into either a Department of Correction facility or into another form of sentence. The most recent data obtained varies by sentence.

Sentence	Number Entering
DOC Imprisonment (FY 2004)	16,111
Parole (FY 2003)	5,395
Probation (FY 2003)	5,218
Felony Supervision in lieu of prosecution (CY 2003)	167
Felony Other (Including Home Detention) (CY 2003)	883
Felony Shock Probation (CY 2003)	782

(B) Under the bill, poll clerks and assistant poll clerks would be required to check the photo identification of a voter attempting to enter the polls. This provision could be administered within existing local resources.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Office of the Secretary of State, Indiana Election Division.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Counties.

**Information Sources:** Department of Correction: *2002 and 2003 Offender Population Statistical Reports*, including summary report from June 2003; *2002 & 2003 Indiana Probation Report*.

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